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a smoother for smoothing the image by arranging the smoothing dots around edges  
of the image forming dots,

wherein, on each scanning line, a distance between a center of one of the smoothing  
dots and a center of one of the image forming dots adjacent to said one smoothing dots is  
shorter than a distance between the centers of adjacent image forming dots.

32. (New) The ink jet printer as recited in claim 31, wherein said distance  
between the center of the smoothing dot and the center of the image forming dot adjacent  
to said one smoothing dot is controlled by controlling the timing of printing the smoothing  
dots.

33. (New) An ink jet printer as recited in claim 31, wherein said nozzle moves  
along the recording medium during a printing operation, and said distance between the  
smoothing dot and the center of the image forming dot adjacent to said smoothing dot is  
controlled based on the ejection speed of the ink droplet and the moving speed of the  
nozzle.--